RERELEASE: '93 special issue of 'Ladies' Home Journal'

Her mystique lives on in books, magazines

By Deirdre Donahue
USA TODAY

The death of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis has unleashed a torrential media storm.

Beyond this week's *Time* and *Newsweek* cover stories and two-page appreciation in *The New Yorker*, special magazine issues are being readied.

Definites include a *People Extra*, due on newsstands in June. (*People* will probably devote next week's regular-issue cover story to the former first lady.)

Ladies' Home Journal is updating and rereleasing its special issue, *Jackie: An Intimate Portrait*. Originally published to coincide with the 30th anniversary of JFK's assassination last year, *Jackie* chronicles her life in text and photos.

Publication director Myrna Blyth plans to release it as soon as possible. She finds the photos of Jackie with her grandchildren particularly moving. "She really seemed happy," says Blyth.

Eying its treasure trove of vintage photos, *Life* magazine is also considering a special issue but has not made a final decision.

And in the field of book publishing, while no instant biographies have been announced yet, Lester David's upcoming bio from Carol Publishing has a new subtitle: *Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: The Woman She Has Become* is now *Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: A Portrait of Her Private Years*.

It looks at "the last four to six years of her life," says publisher Steven Schragis. Expected in stores in early July, 65,000 copies already have been ordered. (C. David Heymann's *A Woman Named Jackie* remains Schragis' top seller at 900,000 hardcover copies.)

Originally scheduled for September, Laurence Leamer's *The Kennedy Women: The Saga of an American Family*, from Villard, may be released earlier.

There is also the possibility that Doubleday — where Onassis worked as an editor — may eventually publish an authorized tribute.